

Attorney Docket No. 19240-233
(previously 18704-012)

Patent

REMARKS

I. Summary of Office Action

The Examiner rejected each of claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a) as being either anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,930,777 to Barber (hereinafter, "Barber") or unpatentable over some combination of Barber, U.S. Patent No. 6,427,140 to Ginter et al. (hereinafter, "Ginter"), U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2002/0111912 to Hunter et al. (hereinafter, "Hunter"), U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2002/0133412 to Oliver et al. (hereinafter, "Oliver"), and U.S. Patent No. 6,389,541 to Patterson (hereinafter, "Patterson").

II. Summary of Applicants' Reply

Applicants have proposed amending claims 9-12, 31 and 33, as indicated in the Listing of Claims on pages 3-5 and 7-8 of this paper. Claims 13 and 34 have been cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, claims 1-12, 14-33, and 35-37 will be pending in this application after the amendments set forth above have been entered.

III. Interview Summary

Applicants thank Examiners Worjloh and Trammell for taking the time to discuss this application with applicants' representatives, Matthew T. Byrne and George L. Kanabe, on March 31, 2005. During the interview, applicants' claims were discussed with reference to the Barber reference. The proposed amendments to claims 9-12 and 31-33 set forth above are consistent with the discussion and agreements reached during the interview. Applicants also thank Examiner Worjloh for indicating on April 4, 2005 to applicants' representative, George L. Kanabe, that the claims 1-12, 14-33, and 35-37 which will be pending in this application after the amendments set forth above have been entered contain allowable subject matter.

IV. Petition For Extension Of Time

Applicants have submitted herewith a petition for a one-month extension of time for responding to the Office Action mailed on December 9, 2004. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this response, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account no. 08-0219.

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V. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, applicants believe that all the pending claims are allowable, and a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 4/5/05

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